AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A medical device programmer comprising:

an infrared interface to receive changes to software executed by a processor within the programmer during an infrared communication session; and

a controller to <u>activate</u> ~~control~~ the infrared interface to <u>seek</u> ~~initiate~~ an infrared communication session for a finite period of time in response to power-up of the programmer, and deactivate the infrared interface after the finite period of time if the infrared communication session is not established.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the infrared interface is active for approximately 5 to 10 seconds following power-up to seek <u>the</u> ~~a~~ communication session.

Claim 3 (Original): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the software changes comprise changes to an operating system of the programmer.

Claim 4 (Original): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the software changes comprise changes to medical device programs.

Claim 5 (Original): The programmer of claim 1, further comprising a processor to execute instructions specified by the software changes.

Claim 6 (Original): The programmer of claim 1, further comprising a software loading port for loading the software upon assembly of the programmer.

Claim 7 (Original): The programmer of claim 6, wherein the software loading port includes a JTAG interface.

Claim 8 (Original): The programmer of claim 6, further comprising a plate member placed to cover the loading port.

Claim 9 (Original): The programmer of claim 8, wherein the plate member is printed with identifying information.

Claim 10 (Original): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the software includes instructions to implement an embedded operating system within the programmer.

Claim 11 (Original): The programmer of claim 1, further comprising:

a first circuit board within the programmer housing, the first circuit board including telemetry circuitry, wherein the telemetry circuit is coupled to an antenna; and

a second circuit board within the programmer housing, the second circuit board including a display and display circuitry.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The programmer of claim ~~10~~11, wherein the second circuit board includes control circuitry to control the display and the telemetry circuit, the programmer further comprising an electrical interface between the first and second circuit boards.

Claim 13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The programmer of claim ~~10~~11, further comprising an internal antenna mounted to the first circuit board on a side of the first circuit board <u>facing away from</u> ~~opposite~~ the second circuit board <u>to reduce electromangentic interference during telemetry using the internal antenna</u>.

Claim 15 (Original): The programmer of claim 14, wherein the internal antenna defines an aperture, the programmer further comprising a battery bay extending at least partially into the aperture.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The programmer of claim ~~10~~11, further comprising an external antenna coupled to the telemetry circuitry via a cable.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The programmer of claim ~~10~~11, wherein the display is a liquid crystal display.

Claim 18 (Original): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the infrared interface is positioned on a lower side surface of a housing associated with the programmer.

Claim 19 (Original): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the infrared interface is an Infrared Data Association (IRDA) interface.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the finite period of time is less than or equal to approximately 10 seconds following power-up.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the medical device programmer is a programmer for an implantable neurostimulator.

Claims 22-31 (Canceled).

Claim 32 (New): The programmer of claim 1, wherein the controller deactivates the infrared interface after the finite period of time if the infrared interface does not detect an external infrared interface to establish the communication session.